Supply of boots and shoes to armed Forces

2339. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the armed forces in pursuance to the Cabinet decision of Government of India taken way back in 1969 or so have not been utilising the total installed capacity available for production of DMS (double moulded sole) boots and shoes from the Central Government Public Sector Undertakings on the plea of higher cost etc.

(b) whether the forces have not got settled the quesion of higher cost either from the Cost Accounts branch or Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP);

(c) whether the procurements made from the private suppliers either get delayed due to dearth of their capacity or bears lack of quality which ultimately affected the forces which use them;

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(e) the details of orders placed by each of the forces during the last three years on the PSUs, Ordnance Equipment Factory and the trade; and

(f) what further action is contemplated to utilise the existing capacity for better quality DMS/Shoes from the PSU?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (f) After fully booking the capacity of the Ordance Equipment Factory, orders for procurement of boots are placed on various suppliers including PSUs, in accordance with Government Orders in force from time-to time. According to orders presently in force, PSUs are not eligible for any price preference, but if the price quoted by PSUs is within 10 per cent of the lowest valid price bid, purchase preference may be granted to the public enterprise concerned, i.e, the PSU will have to make the supply at the lowest vaild bid rate. Under these guidelines, involvement of Cost Accounts Branch or Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) is not required.

All stores are purchased after inspection to ensure adherence to quality specifications. Private supllliers have been adhering adhering to the prescribed delivery schedule.

Details of orders placed during 1991-92 to 1993-94 in respect of DMS/Shoes are as under:—

	DGOF		PSUs		TRADE	
	Qty	Value (in Crores)	Qty	Value (In Crores)	Qty	Value (in Crores)
Army	6,00,000	17.31	1,65,975	3.15	Bil	Nil
Navy	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Air. Air Force	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1,35,000	2·88

There are no complaints with regard to the quality of DMS/Shoes procured ex-trade.

Army Officers apprehended by civilian anti-corruption Deptt.

2340. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of army officers apprehended by civilian anti-corruption department during last three years;

(b) whether these criminally involved officers were tried in the Civil Courts, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Army rules/court marshals stipulate imprisonment in line with civilians involved in such offences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) During the last three years two Army Officers were apprehended by the CBI while demanding and accepting bribes from private indiviuals.